

WXEL-FM is installing its digital FM broadcasting equipment this summer. We chose to "go digital" primarily for its multiplexing possibilities. We are currently exploring two options for a secondary audio service: either (1) broadcasting in Spanish to the rapidly growing Spanish-speaking population of South Florida, to provide the same kind of high quality educational, cultural and informational programming in that language that we now broadcast in English, or (2) providing the only 24/7 classical music FM broadcasting service in our coverage area.

We hope the FCC will approve digital radio multiplexing so that we can better serve the people of our region in one of these ways. Also, we believe that digital radios will not be purchased and the technology will fail unless the FCC allows multiplexing, thereby increasing the services provided by radio and making this investment by consumers worthwhile. We do not think that many people will rush to buy digital radios solely for the improved audio fidelity. Thank you for considering our opinion.

Fred Flaxman, Vice President for Development
WXEL-FM public radio for the Palm Beaches and the Treasure Coast